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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/671,058	09/25/2003	Janice Marie Girouard	AUS920030637US1	5828

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EXAMINER

SHAN, APRIL YING

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2135

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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05/31/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/671,058

Applicant(s)

GIROUARD ET AL.

Examiner

April Y. Shan

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 March 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The Applicant's amendment, filed 13 March 2007, has been received, entered into the record, respectfully and fully considered.
2. As a result of the amendment, claims 1, 8 and 15 have been amended. Claims 1-20 are now presented for examination.
3. Any objections/rejections not repeated below for record are withdrawn due to Applicant's amendment.

Response to Arguments

4. On page 9 of the remark, the Applicant states "Applicant have accordingly included with the Response a Supplemental IDS including U.S. Publication No. 2001/0055388 A1 under "U.S. Patent Documents". The Examiner respectfully responds that Examiner did not receive this Response a Supplemental IDS. However, the examiner listed the above mentioned U.S. Publication on PTO-892 and considered.
5. The Applicant argued "The inclusion of the "separate input event" in claims 1, 8 and 15 was a clerical error, the examiner respectfully disagree after respectfully and carefully reviews the Applicant's original disclosure. On page 29 of the Abstract and page 4 of the disclosure, the Applicant discloses "...applying a hashing algorithm associated with the **separate input event** to the master password...". Also, on lines 1-12, page 4 of the disclosure, the Applicant discloses "**Exemplary embodiments** of the present invention...applying a hashing algorithm associated with the **separate input event** to the master password..." and on lines 14-22, page 4, the Applicant discloses "In

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typical embodiments of the present invention, applying a hashing algorithm associated with **the passkey event...**". It appears to the examiner "applying a hashing algorithm associated with the separate input event" and "applying a hash algorithm associated with the passkey event" are two different embodiments of the instant application. In another words, the original claims 1, 8 and 15 recite "...separate input event.." is fully supported by the original disclosure. Therefore, Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

6. Regarding Applicant's argument that "Henry does not disclose receiving, from a user, a passkey event uniquely associated with one of a plurality of Applications requiring a password" and "Henry Does not disclose applying a hashing algorithm associated with the passkey event to the master password to generate an application specific password" on pages 11-12, the Examiner respectfully disagrees and detail explanation is presented in the art rejection below. The examiner respectfully reminds Applicant that that although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993)

7. Regarding Applicant's argument that "Henry does not discloses a method/system/computer program for providing a password to an application in claims 1, 8 and 15" on page 14, the examiner respectfully disagrees and detail explanation is presented in the art rejection below. The examiner respectfully reminds the Applicant, "A preamble is generally not accorded any patentable weight where it merely recites the

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purpose of a process or the intended use of a structure, and where the body of the claim does not depend on the preamble for completeness but, instead, the process steps or structural limitations are able to stand alone. See *In re Hirao*, 535 F.2d 67, 190 USPQ 15 (CCPA 1976) and *Kropa v. Robie*, 187 F.2d 150, 152, 88 USPQ 478, 481 (CCPA 1951). Even the

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

9. Claims 1-3, 5-6, 8-10, 12-13, 15-17 and 19-20 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Henry et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,996,718).

As per **claims 1 and 8**, Henry et al. discloses a method/system for providing a password to an application, the method/system comprising:

receiving, from a user, an passkey event ("1. Input account username and 2. Input account location" in fig. 7. Please note input account username and account location corresponds to Applicant's passkey event) uniquely associated with (Please note account user name/account location is a passkey event uniquely associated with

one of a plurality of application requiring a password since **"The user id and the server name cooperate to uniquely define a unique account belonging to the user"** – e.g. col. 4, lines 18-20) one of a plurality of applications ("multiple accounts" – e.g. abstract requiring a password ("3. input common password" in fig. 7)

receiving, from a user, a same master password ("a common password 30" in fig. 1 and col. 3, line 7. Please note a common password corresponds to Applicant's a same master password) for access to each of the plurality of applications ("multiple accounts 40, 50, 60 and 70" in fig. 1 and col. 3, line 8. Please note multiple accounts correspond to Applicant's plurality of applications, e.g. col. 6, lines 40-44 and step 3 fig. 7);

applying a hashing algorithm associated with the passkey event to the master password to generate an application specific password ("A designated password for each account is generated by a hash function of the common password and some account-dependent information" – e.g. abstract. Please note a designated password corresponds to Applicant's an application specific password. "In the present invention, to generate, process and validate the common password and associated designated passwords for each of a user's accounts, a password transform algorithm is utilized. In a preferred embodiment of the present invention, the password transform algorithm may be generalized as follows: $pd = \text{Text}(\text{Hash}(Ui + Pc + Si + Nr))$, where, Pd stands for a designated password, Ui for a user ID..Pc for a common password... Si for a server name (such as the server name or URL of the user's account service provider), and Nr for a random number..the Hash () portion represents the hash function..The account-

dependent information includes a user ID, a server name that indicates the account location, and a random number that is associated with the account and stored at the server.. **The user id and the server name cooperate to uniquely define a unique account belonging to the user** – e.g. col. 3, l. 60- col. 4, l. 20); and

submitting the application specific password to the application for access by the user (“The hash value is calculated at the user’s computer, and then submitted as a designated password to a server” – e.g. abstract and “Once a user’s account has been established as discussed above, the user will be able to access his/her account at the server...and the server prompts the user to submit the designated password Pd, step 220... The designated password Pd is calculated according to the password transform algorithm, and submitted to the server over the secure connection by the user, step 260..If a match is found, the user is admitted to the account step 280” – e.g. col. 5, lines 24-46 and steps 260-280 in fig. 3).

As per **claims 2 and 9**, Henry et al. discloses a method/system as applied in claims 1 and 8. Henry et al. further discloses wherein applying a hashing algorithm associated with the passkey event to the same master password to generate an application specific password comprises:

retrieving a hash value (“Nr for a random number” – e.g. col. 4, lines 6-7. Please note a random number corresponds to Applicant’s hash value) associated with the

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passkey event ("a random number that is associated with the account and stored at the server" – e.g. col. 4, lines 15-17); and

applying the hash value to at least one character of the same master password to generate at least one hashed character (col. 3, line 66 and col. 4, lines 1-20. Please note Hash (Ui+Pc+Si+Nr) in col. 3, line 65 corresponds to Applicant's hashed character).

As per **claims 3 and 10**, Henry et al. discloses a method/system as applied in claims 2 and 9. Henry et al. further discloses wherein retrieving a hash value associated with the passkey event comprises retrieving hash value from a user's configuration file (col. 5, lines 29-31).

As per **claims 5 and 12**, Henry et al. discloses a method/system as applied in claims 2 and 9. Col. 3, line 66 and col. 4, lines 1-31 of Henry et al. further discloses wherein applying a hashing algorithm associated with the passkey event to the master password to generate an application specific password comprises:

retrieving a character rule algorithm; and

applying the character rule algorithm to the hashed character to generate a character rule compliant hashed character.

(Please note according to Applicant's specification page 15-16, Applicant's definition on a character rule algorithm is inclusive with the definition of a master rule

algorithm. Therefore, the cited reference in Henry et al. met the limitations in claims 5 and 12).

As per **claims 6 and 13**, Henry et al. discloses a method/system as applied in claims 3 and 10. Col. 3, line 66 and col. 4, lines 1-31 of Henry et al. further discloses wherein applying a hashing algorithm associated with the passkey event to the master password to generate an application specific password comprises:

- retrieving a master rule algorithm; and
- applying the master rule algorithm.

(Please note according to Applicant's specification page 15-16, Applicant's definition on a character rule algorithm is inclusive with the definition of a master rule algorithm. Therefore, the cited reference in Henry et al. met the limitations in claims 6 and 13).

As per **claims 15-17 and 19-20**, Henry et al. discloses the claimed method of steps as applied above in claims 1-3 and 5-6. Therefore, Henry et al. discloses the claimed computer program product embodied in a record medium for carrying out the method of steps.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148

USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining

obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

12. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

13. Claims 4, 11 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henry et al. as applied to claims 1-3, 5-6, 8-10, 12-13 and 15-20 above, and further in view of Challener et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,085,933)

As per **claims 4 and 11**, Henry et al. does not disclose expressly wherein retrieving a hash value associated with the passkey event comprises retrieving a hash value from a configuration register.

Challener et al. discloses wherein retrieving a hash value associated with the passkey event comprises retrieving a hash value from a configuration register (col. 3, lines 1-11).

Henry et al. and Challener et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor system and method for improving computer system security.

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Challener et al.'s retrieving a hash value associated with the passkey event comprises retrieving a hash value from a configuration register into Henry et al.'s method/system.

The motivation of doing so would have been "for a computer system to have trusted computing platform capabilities" and "the random data withheld from caching to disk and from exposure by the secure virtual machine", as taught by Challener et al. (col. 2, lines 53-56 and col. 3, lines 1-11)

As per **claim 18**, the combined teachings of Henry et al. and Challener et al. disclose the claimed method of step as applied above in claim 4. Therefore, the combined teachings of Henry et al. and Challener et al. discloses the claimed computer program product embodied in a record medium for carrying out the method of steps.

14. Claims 7 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henry et al. as applied to claims 1-3, 5-6, 8-10, 12-13 and 15-20 above, and further in view of D'Souza et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,625,649).

As per **claims 7 and 14**, Henry et al. does not disclose expressly wherein receiving, from a user, a passkey event uniquely associated with any given one of the plurality of applications comprises receiving, from a user, an event created by a user's engaging a keyboard key.

However, D'Souza et al. discloses receiving, from a user, a passkey event uniquely associated with any given one of the plurality of applications comprises receiving, from a user, an event created by a user's engaging a keyboard key, "The technique allows a user to launch specific software applications by simply depressing keys on a keyboard... The keys associated with the applications may be dedicated keys on a conventional keyboard. By depressing the dedicated key, the user may not only launch a software application, but may log onto a network, such as the worldwide web or the Internet, and may directly access a desired website... Where desired, specific combinations of keystrokes may be provided for launching the applications, logging onto a network, accessing specific suites, and so forth... The keyboard includes a plurality of keys for accessing specific Internet or network sites..." – e.g. col. 2, line 26 – col. 3, line 3.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate D'Souza et al.'s an event created by a user's engaging a keyboard key into Henry's system/method. The motivation of doing so would have been

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"a need..for an improved technique for launching applications in a computer system, particularly applications related to launching, logging on, and navigating through computer networks. There is a particular need for a simple and straightforward, user-friendly system for rapidly access such applications..", as disclosed by D'Souza et al. (e.g. col. 2, lines 14-24).

Conclusion

15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. (See PTO – 892)

16. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

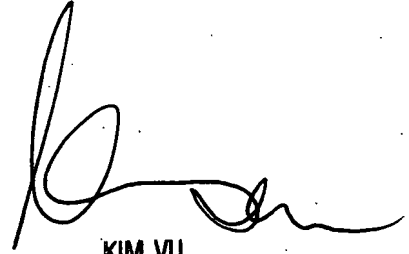
Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to April Y. Shan whose telephone number is (571) 270-1014. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Y. Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AYS
24 May 2007
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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER